

Interagency Wildfire Management Team  
Meeting Notes  
September 21, 2005

Doug Tucker (Los Alamos County Fire Department) reported that the Pine Canyon Fire near El Rito has burned approximately 3300 acres. This is one of the largest fires in New Mexico that has been recorded so late in the year.

Bill Gall (Los Alamos Site Office, NNSA) announced that the Inspector General's Office will be onsite in October to evaluate wildland fire issues at LANL.

Sam Loftin (Ecology Group, LANL) has received comments to the internal review of the draft LANL Wildfire Management Plan. External review of this plan will begin next week. Sam also announced that thinning at TA-54 and in adjacent Pajarito Canyon is nearly complete.

Phil Taylor (Office of Emergency Management, Los Alamos County) has been updating the County Evacuation Plan. A meeting to discuss this plan will be held on October 4.

Cassandra Begay (Los Alamos Site Office, NNSA) reported that a pre-assessment of the Environmental Management System (EMS) was completed. Third party certification will be conducted on the EMS by December 2005.

Sandy Hurlocker (Santa Fe National Forest) reported that most of the slash piles along Camp May Road have been burned and that more pile burning will be conducted this winter. A maintenance fire along Highway 501 has been proposed for this winter or next spring. Fire hazard reduction activities are also being completed in the Arizona Avenue area. Responses from the public related to the prescribed fires in the Santa Fe Watershed have been positive.

Craig Martin (Parks Division, Los Alamos County) announced that the County has completed its fuels mitigation plan. Also, fire hazard reduction activities will be completed in Pueblo Canyon during this winter and spring.

Ed Hoth (Utilities and Infrastructure, LANL) reported that the signs identifying fire roads and firebreaks have been installed.

The Climate Assessment for the Southwest project (CLIMAS), located at the Institute for the Study of Planet Earth, University of Arizona, reports through its September 2005 Outlook that models indicate increased chances of above-average temperatures in the Southwest through March 2006. Increase chances of drier-than-average conditions also exist through February 2006 across most of the region. For more information, see <http://www.ispe.arizona.edu/climas/forecasts.html>

The next IWMT meeting will be at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, October 5, at TA-21, Building 210 in the ENV-ECO (Ecology Group) Conference Room (142). The IWMT

meets every other week and these meetings are open to the public. Contact Randy Balice ([balice@lanl.gov](mailto:balice@lanl.gov), 665-1270) for further information, or to get on the distribution list for these meeting notes.